Well Styled Home

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Flea Market Décor



Tips to Style an Inspired Tree

The Ultimate Holiday Guide

217 Festive Ideas

Make it! VINTAGE ORNAMENTS, WREATHS, GIFTS AND MORE

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"At Christmas, *all roads lead home.*"
—Marjorie Holmes

PHOTO BY IVAR JANSSEN

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Photography by © timeincukcontent.com
Design by Kelly Lee



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PHOTO BY AZNDC/ISTOCK/GETTY IMAGES



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Flea Market Décor (ISSN 2331-9011) is published quarterly, four times a year—Mar/Apr, Jun/Jul, Sept/Oct, Dec/Jan—© 2015 by Engaged Media, Inc., 22840 Savi Ranch Parkway, #200, Yorba Linda, CA 92887. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Flea Market Décor c/o VSI, Inc. 905 Kent Street, Liberty, MO 64068.

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Very Merry Vintage

Amid the last-minute

mad dashes to the mall for gifts and the hectic meal preparations when the whole family is in town, it's easy to forget the true spirit of Christmas. Take a page from this issue of *Flea Market Décor* by celebrating the holiday in a vintage way—upholding your favorite long-standing traditions and fondly remembering the celebrations of yesteryear with the items that recall those special moments.

Make the season merry by showing off your hard-earned collectibles in a new way, refashioned into a glistening wreath (see page 14). Or recreate the look of a retro-inspired Christmas home for a fresh take on midcentury style (page 20). Try your hand at making your own ornaments, which will allow you to create new memories that can be cherished for years to come (page 28).

We take you on a tour through several homes atypically decorated for the holiday to inspire you to think outside the box. Your Christmas color palette isn't limited to red and green, just as your resources aren't limited to big-box store décor, but rather can include everything, old and new. 'Tis the season to display all the flea-market finds you've spent so much time gathering. When you learn to love what you have and embrace the imperfections in secondhand finds, your holiday season can get a whole lot brighter.

Happy hunting!

xo, Karen

Karen Wilhelmsen
Editor

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Well Styled Home

Flea Market Décor

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4
DEC/JAN 2016

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www.fleamarketdecor.com
www.facebook.com/FleaMarketDecorMagazine
www.facebook.com/eembybeckett

Flea Market Décor (ISSN 2331-9011) is published quarterly, four times a year—Mar/Apr, Jun/Jul, Sept/Oct, Dec/Jan—

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TRIM *the Tree*

Whether you like a colorful and eclectic or more traditional look for the holidays, we've got you covered with two eye-catching looks.

BY KAREN WILHELMSEN

Each Christmas provides us with a new opportunity to get our creative juices flowing and decorate in a fresh, new way.

This year, whether you prefer an eclectic look or something more timeless with traditional red and green accents, we show you how to style your home for vintage-inspired charm. Using just a few key pieces, we'll show you how getting either of these looks is easier than you think.

1 Classic Cottage Charm

In this 1800s East Coast cottage, vintage and industrial finds create timeless appeal. The homeowner's no-fuss approach to styling even translates into her holiday décor. Because there is minimal space in this 1,150-square-foot cottage, the tree stands in front of a nonworking fireplace, which makes it a conversation starter and the focal point of the room that



1

Photo by John Gruen; Styling by Jacqueline deMontravel



tip

Use scrap pieces of vintage fabric leftover from other projects to craft your own holiday ornaments.

Photo by © timeincukcontent.com

2

the rest of the furniture is grouped around. Using simple beaded garlands and colorful vintage ornaments, the elegant tree ties in nicely with the room's red accents, like the striking brick fireplace and sofa. Timeless knitted stockings finish off the look.

The living room features a large floral area rug, which means that a dramatic tree skirt would have been too distracting for the space. This small, striped pink skirt does the trick by providing a subtle hint of color without throwing off the scale of the tree. When picking out your tree, don't be intimidated by buying a large one—the oversized furniture of this room makes it fit right in.

2 Handcrafted Holiday

This cozy look comes courtesy of charming handmade ornaments. Search flea markets for pretty felt pieces like these, or try your hand at making them yourself. You can make several simple felt hearts stuffed with cotton and string them together to make an unfussy garland—the stitching doesn't need to look perfect because imperfections make it feel more custom-made and down-to-earth. An angel made from driftwood and tied with a simple red ribbon completes the colorful design.

To tie into this eclectic vibe, natural elements provide a variety of textures that keep the look interesting. From a reindeer and mini tree made from scrap wood to antique candlesticks with patina on the mantel, this soft, serene feel is achieved using muted colors and romantic pastels. So as not to take attention away from the tree, the simply wrapped presents are corralled in a wire basket.

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Dear Santa

If all you want for Christmas is vintage-style décor, grab these hot finds for winter.

BY KAREN WILHELMSEN









1. CHRISTMAS RAG WREATH KIT, $26.93; clareloves.co.uk.

2. FANTASTIC CRAFT CHURCH BIRDHOUSE, $39; available at select Nordstrom stores and nordstrom.com.

3. FATHER CHRISTMAS TIN DECORATION, $6.14; oakroomshop.co.uk.

4. WREATH TREE NAPKIN RING, $25; blisshomeanddesign.com.

5. NATURAL BRANCH TRIPLE VOTIVE HOLDER, $24.99; decobreeze.com.



6. WORLDS AWAY FROSTED GLASS CHANDELIER, $247.50; zincdoor.com.

7. HANGING REINDEER CHRISTMAS DECORATION, $26.15; oakroomshop.co.uk.

8. VINTAGE BLOWN-GLASS ORNAMENTS (SET OF FOUR), $115; balsamhill.com.

9. GEORGIAN HOLIDAY SIX-PIECE ORNAMENT SET, $125.94; wayfair.com.

10. GREEN GLITTER TASSEL GARLAND KIT, $24.59; notonthehighstreet.com.

11. VINTAGE-STYLE SANTA 13" × 21" THROW PILLOW, $36.95; zazzle.com.



12. SANTA BABUSHKA DOLL SET, $28.79; notonthehighstreet.com.

13. YULETIDE GARLAND SET OF FOUR PLATES, $21.99; lampsplus.com.

14. HOLIDAY PILLOW, $12.99; hm.com.



Photo by Parema/iStock via Getty Image

REINVENTING THE *Wreath*

Craft your own vintage-inspired wreath using your favorite flea-market finds.

BY KAREN WILHELMSEN

This Christmas, think outside the box and upcycle the items you find at the fleas by creating your own one-of-a-kind wreaths.

Start by heading to a craft supply store and picking up a basic foam or grapevine wreath. Then gather a collection of small vintage goods, which can be anything from ornaments to baubles. With a hot-glue gun, good old-fashioned elbow grease and your creativity, anything is possible.



Photo by Bret Gum

1 Jingle Bells

The sound of bells jingling every time you open your front door is a friendly reminder that the Christmas season is upon us. Start your search for antique bells at the flea market or online, on sites like Etsy or eBay. Bronze antique sleigh bells from the late 1800s can often be found in sets of 10 or more, making it easy to gather a large collection. They also don't all have to match—embrace their individual patina and finishes by not polishing them for a mismatched, eclectic look.

2 Music to Your Eyes

For all the lovers of Christmas tunes, this wreath is for you. Start by finding sheet music at a vintage shop or flea market—the more tattered and worn the pages, the better. Get creative and cut out petals from the sheet music, gluing your pieces together to form flowers. Once you have made enough flowers to cover your foam or grapevine wreath, hot-glue them on. Finish off the look with a piece of colorful ribbon and hang it. You can also make flowers like these from burlap, ribbon, lace or vintage linens.



3 In Love with Ornaments

Vintage ornaments are a favorite flea-market find because you can never have too many and they are inexpensive. Available in a range of styles and colors, they are beautiful on their own, but when grouped together create an eye-catching statement piece. Collect ornaments—shiny, colorful and bright—in a color palette that will suit your home. You can go with a classic color combo like silver and gold, or create a more playful look by gathering them in a range of colors, as shown here. Fill the smaller nooks and crannies with tiny ornaments, and finish off the wreath with curled ribbon.

Photo by Bret Gum

21 A New Approach to an Old Brooch

There's no better way to honor a collection of Christmas brooches than by turning them into home décor for the holidays. You can easily find sets of vintage Christmas brooches online or buy them individually for just a few dollars each. Look for special ones that remind you of your favorite things about the holidays. Place your favorite pieces on top so they really shine, especially if any of your brooches are inherited family heirlooms. You can even use damaged ones purchased at a discount by hiding any scratched or dented parts.



Photo by Bret Gum



Photo by Bret Gum

5 One for the Books

Some flea-market shoppers have more antique books than they know what to do with. If that's you, here's an idea to embrace your love of the written word. Take a vintage book and spray paint the edges of the pages in the color of your choice. (This is optional, if you want to add color.) Tear out an individual page and lightly fold it (without making creases in the paper) to create a fan or accordion-looking piece. Using a stapler, staple the pages onto the wreath in the middle of page, allowing the waves to fan out. Continue this until the wreath is completely covered.



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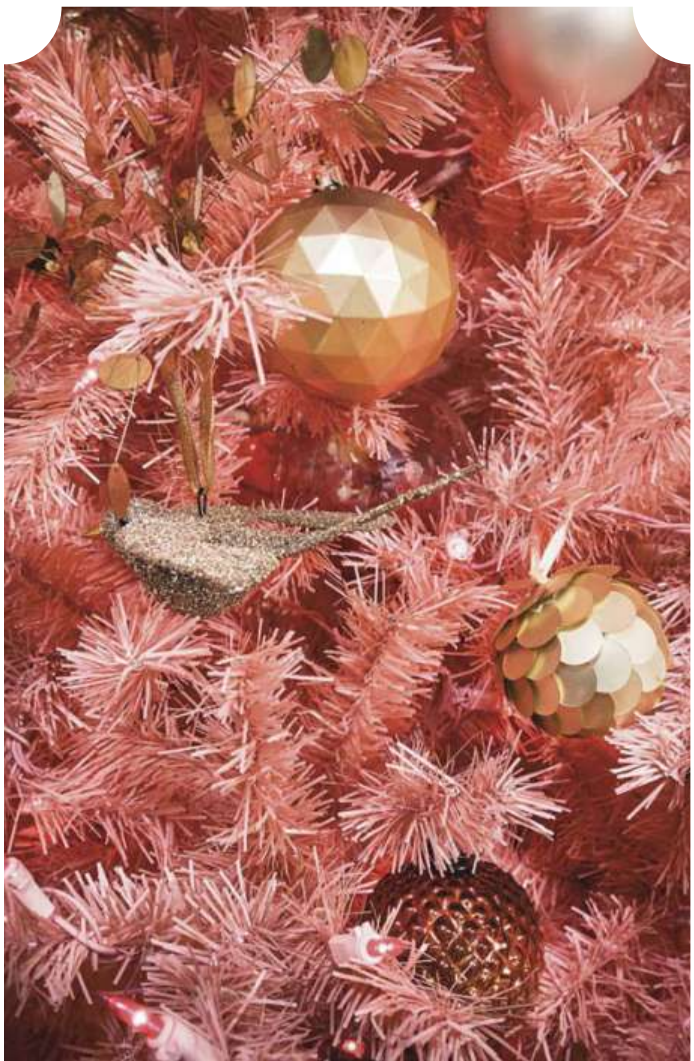
1. PLAYFUL WITH PATTERN
The glittery gold-star tree topper draws your eye to the tip of this pink Christmas tree, creating a striking focal point. A graphic rug pattern, such as this pink chevron-patterned rug by Madeline Weinrib, can substitute for a tree skirt.

1

Making It Cheery

BY MARGIE MONIN DOMBROWSKI
PHOTOGRAPHY BY WAYNE CABLE

Holiday sparkle and vintage accessories bring warmth and whimsy to this home at Christmastime.



Dreams of a pink Christmas tree really do come true. When Nicole Balch, who blogs for Making It Lovely, spotted an ethereal pink Christmas tree on a magazine cover, she set out to find one—and wasn't going to give up until she got it. A pink artificial tree, she figured, would be the perfect quirky centerpiece in the living room of her early 20th-century Oak Park, Illinois, bungalow.

Nicole found just what she was looking for, and every year since, she brings the pink tree out of hiding, decorating it and the rest of her home with a fresh theme. This year, she went with a hint of glamour: pink with a little bit of shine, using gold and silver accents throughout.


tip
Want festive in a flash? Add a few metallic accessories such as vases, pillows and trays to create an instant party vibe.
2



> *The key is mixing in those crazier, kooky things* with more traditional things.

2. PRETTY IN PINK
Nicole's sweet and sophisticated style comes together in the living room, where she combines playful color and pattern, contemporary accents and midcentury-modern furnishings. Her pale pink walls instantly set the mood as a soothing backdrop for fun finds.

Dreaming of a Pink Christmas

"I don't think Christmas has to be relegated to just red and green," Nicole says. She loves combinations like teal and pink, red and pink or green and pink—"any kind of riff on those traditional colors." And don't forget other textures such as glitter and metal. "Sparkle and shine always makes it feel Christmassy."

Get Festive, Not Fussy

When decking the halls, it can be tempting to cover everything in tinsel and garland. Show some restraint and focus on a few key details. For starters, a Christmas tree is a must. Choose a theme for each tree, using one to three ornament styles for cohesion. Too many mismatched ornaments can look cluttered, so balance them out carefully.

If you don't have a fireplace mantel, get creative. Nicole's dining room features a beautiful vintage built-in buffet, which she used as an impromptu mantel, stringing up stockings, and decorating it with ornaments, an ornament garland and brass reindeer to create a focal point. Other spots such as the top of a credenza, dresser, or even some shelves can easily become holiday displays, she says.


JOY



tip

Stockings hung at the dining room buffet? Why not! Find some bright stocking hangers for an extra splash of color.

> "Sparkle and shine always makes it feel Christmassy."

Kitschy and Classic

A great eye and sense of balance come in handy when going for an eclectic-yet-curated look. Nicole calls her style "kooky meets traditional" and explains how to work in those eccentric pieces like a pro. "I have a lot of crazy things," she says. "The key is mixing in those crazier, kooky things with more traditional things."

Next Christmas, she'll come up with a whole new plan, as she always does. "We use the same things over and over, but just move them to different areas," Nicole says. One thing we can count on seeing again? Her cheery pink Christmas tree.

See Sources, page 128.

3. SHINY AND BRIGHT
Metallic accents and Nicole's signature pink tones give the dining room a sophisticated, festive edge. Don't be afraid to mix silver and gold for a fully luxurious effect. On the buffet, a collection of ornaments and a pair of large brass reindeer add a pop of sparkle.





4. SILVER LINING
Ribbon-hung wreaths made of feathers dress up the sleek, white library bookcases, while also coordinating with the silver artificial Christmas tree decked out with white birds and red yarn-ball ornaments. The striking two-toned space, mainly consisting of brown and white, lets colorful accents shine.

4

Stylish Celebrations

Your home can be uniquely you during the holidays like it is every other time of the year. Here's how.

1. **Use what you've got.** Mix your everyday décor in with your holiday accessories. If it's silver or gold metallic finishes, incorporate those into your theme without having to start from scratch. By accentuating your existing décor rather than fighting against it, you can create an understated and sophisticated look.
2. **Take a few risks.** Which hues speak to you? It may be hot pink or it may be ice blue. Or perhaps you want to use both together for a fresh take. If you really want to have fun with it, grab a color wheel and spin it around. See what unique combos you can come up with—it just may inspire you to choose a shade you'd never consider a Christmas color.
3. **Bring in natural elements.** Accent your furniture and accessories with small, natural touches of Christmas. Spruce up a bookcase with a fresh garland, dress up your mantel with pine boughs or fill apothecary jars with pinecones. The beauty of nature always enhances any décor and with minimal effort.

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Don't use cherished ornaments for this project. Nail-polish remover is a chemical, and you cannot predict how the paint will react. Try practicing on inexpensive ones first.

Hung with Care

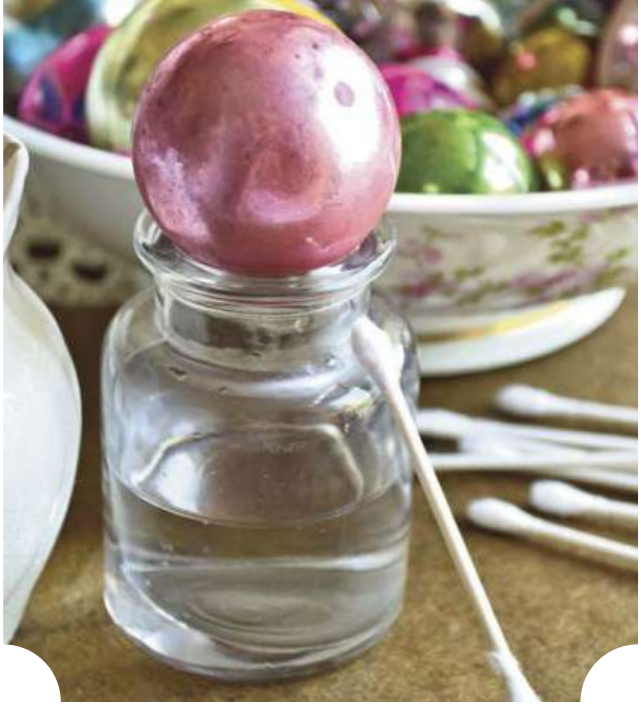
Craft two easy projects to add homespun style to your vintage-inspired Christmas tree.

WRITTEN, PHOTOGRAPHED AND STYLED BY MELINDA GRAHAM

Sometimes, as the expression goes, "What's old is new again." Decorating with vintage finds is an art that can require years of collecting beforehand. As the holidays draw near, antiquers often find themselves wishing they had hit one more yard sale in search of vintage holiday décor. Luckily, there are easy ways to create heirloom-style treasures in a crunch.

This year, get crafty and give new, store-bought items a vintage spin. All you need to turn back time are some simple materials you might already have around the house as well as a bit of patience. Let's get crafting!





Aged Glass Ornaments

What you'll need:

- Brown craft or wax paper
- Q-tips or cotton balls
- Nail-polish remover
- Inexpensive glass ball ornaments
- Dry cloth or paper towel
- Brown craft paint and small paintbrush (optional)
- String or ribbon (optional)

What you'll do:

1. Cover the work area with craft paper to protect your surfaces.
2. Hold the glass ball by the metal hook.
3. Apply a small amount of nail-polish remover to a Q-tip or cotton ball. Dab off the excess on a dry paper towel.
4. Gently tap the surface of the ornament to remove bits of the paint. Just a little tapping goes a long way. Play with the technique until you get an aged finish.
5. Once the desired look is achieved, wipe the entire surface of the ornament with a clean, dry cloth to remove any remaining nail-polish remover.
6. **Optional:** A shiny metal hook is generally a dead giveaway that the ornament is new. Create the illusion of age by creating "rust." Dry-brush a tiny amount of light-brown or rust-colored craft paint onto the metal. Allow it to dry. Finish by tying an old string or ribbon onto the hook.



Try **If you don't have Christmas cards,** print out vintage-style holiday photos at home on heavy-duty stock or scrapbook paper.



Paper Ephemera Cubes

What you'll need:

- Vintage-inspired greeting cards
- Circle template, approximately 2 inches in diameter
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Craft glue
- Thin ribbon

What you'll do:

1. Using a pencil, trace a circle over a decorative section of a greeting card.
2. Cut out the circle and erase any pencil marks.
3. Repeat the steps above until you have six circles.
4. Fold the edges of each circle so the interior section forms a square.
5. Using a glue stick, paste four of the circles edge-to-edge until the sides form a box.
6. Glue the fifth circle onto the bottom of the box.
7. Cut an 8-inch piece of thin ribbon or yarn. Form a loop and knot the end tightly.
8. Tuck the knotted end into the open side of the box.
9. Glue the remaining circle to create an enclosed box with the loop-end exposed for hanging.





1. FUN WITH FLEA FIND
The dining chairs in homeowner Linda Engels' home are from her mother-in-law's collection; she collected the chairs from flea markets to produce a complete set, and Linda used leftover paint to give each one a different color.

2. O CHRISTMAS TREE
There's always a real Christmas tree in the house during the holidays. Linda takes the children with her to buy it. When it comes to decorating it, however, Linda takes charge and comes up with a unique design each year. Simple mushroom ornaments and candy canes evoke a youthful spirit on this occasion.



2

Holly, Jolly HOME

Nostalgic, eclectic and lively—get the look of this home that radiates with holiday cheer.

BY GERALDINE NESBITT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY IVAR JANSSEN
STYLING BY WILMA CUSTERS

Homeowner Linda Engels and her partner, René, lived in a rental property for years before they decided it was time for a change.

They wanted to put their own stamp on a space, so when they came across a row house that had once been a grocery store, Linda knew the color, style and general ambiance were the perfect reflection of her eclectic taste.

"We were looking for a house with features that characterize the architecture of 1930s," Linda says. Her background as an illustrator gave her a sharp eye for style. Her passion and fearlessness when it comes to interior design have been pivotal factors in how she decorated her home—but her looks are never contrived, even when it's Christmastime.



Tip **Make a collection of tiny frames** come to life by grouping them together. Add a painting, shadowbox and mirror for an eclectic feel.

3. ECLECTIC IN COLOR

In the diverse living room, a new Regency-style coffee table coexists alongside a vintage tree-stump stool. The secondhand armchair has been newly upholstered in velvet. The lamp is also vintage, covered in a pale pink lampshade with ruching. Because of a wide array of colors and textures, the room's design is bold yet beautiful.







Home Sweet Dream Home

The home had several of the features that appealed to Linda: stained-glass windows, original wall tiles, a beautiful staircase and a spacious garden. They realized that if it was to become the family home they envisioned, a complete renovation was unavoidable. Step by step they began to turn their vision into reality to transform the space into their dream home.

René took five months off work to demolish everything they didn't want in their new home and to rebuild the space to turn their vision into a reality. Linda's father, an architect, also helped the couple. After careful consideration, they decided to keep the original layout and preserve most of features that initially made them fall in love with the home.

During the renovations, Linda and René were pleasantly surprised by some of the things they discovered. They breathed new life into the original sliding doors on the ground floor, original floor tiles in the kitchen and a connecting corridor, various original built-in cupboards and the massive oak floor. Some vintage pieces, such as antique notebooks left by the previous owners, were even given a new lease on life in the transformed interior.

The Meaning of Christmas

"I find inspiration in the materials that are available and produce my creations when I start putting the different pieces together. I like matching vintage pieces with new objects, and I am proud of the style I have created—it's my signature," Linda says.

4. STYLISHLY DISPLAYED
The cabinet in the living room, part of a complete unit that Linda bought secondhand off the Internet, is the perfect way to store Linda's collections: teacups, boxes and objects that have a special significance. "Collecting is in my blood. My grandfather used to collect all sorts of curiosities and display them in very stylish ways in his home. Even as a little girl, I was fascinated," Linda says.


HUIS
FOTO
Tip
Don't let any space go to waste! Hang ornaments on cabinet doorknobs for festive flair.
Tip
For a casual yet classic feel, cover the base of your tree with brown paper tied with a string.





Tip Marshmallows, pretzel sticks and icing in a tube are all you'll need to create these adorable snowmen cake toppers.

In her home, you'll find a painting of a gypsy woman next to a picture of the Virgin Mary, and though the look is well curated, her collections come together naturally. "I happen across objects and come up with ideas organically," she says. "Then I try them out at home to see if they work."

Winters in Linda's home are full of hustle and bustle when the family visits. Because she loves the home that she has furnished with the utmost care and dedication, it makes the holidays even merrier to spend time with family indoors.

See Sources, page 128.



Deerly Beloved

Collect and display these cute fawn figurines for kitsch style all year round.

- **What to collect:** Porcelain deer figures
- **History:** Vintage porcelain deer figurines have been popular since the 1940s and '50s. Many of the collectible ones you find today come from Japan and are hand painted. Standing at just a few inches tall, they make the perfect shelf decorations.
- **Where to find it:** Though you may have luck at the fleas, utilize online resources like Etsy and eBay for a wider variety. You can find some sets of three or four for about $15.
- **What to look for:** Make sure to examine any piece for cracks in the porcelain or chips in the paint that will lessen the value. Some midcentury porcelain deer figures are larger and stand on a grassy platform; these can be in the $15 to $25 range.
- **How to display it:** Linda dresses up some of her figures with pom-pom hats for the holidays, so they look more like reindeer. For the rest of year, they stand tall on their own and add cute kitschy style to her retro-inspired home.

5. IT ALL COMES TOGETHER
In the kitchen, this cabinet once belonged to Linda's parents; when she inherited it, she repainted it the same blue tone as the tiles of the original floor. An Ikea pendant lamp and fun table setting finish the look.


Tip
Even a staircase can get a holiday facelift with simple additions like small Christmas trees or votives.









> I happen across objects and come up with ideas organically. *Then I try them out at home to see if they work.*



Tip
Use an oversized wardrobe as a room divider in a large space to designate different areas.


LOVE
R
ROOS
ROOS



Reclaimed Wood Christmas Tree

Make a holiday creation using salvaged wood with this affordable, fun project.

For this project all you'll need are six small planks of reclaimed wood, cut to various lengths; a thinner, longer piece of reclaimed wood (for the base) and a nail gun. You can start by painting the wood planks beforehand (if desired). Nail the six pieces from smallest to largest onto the long wooden base, and then your tree is ready to decorate with small ornaments or washi tape.

> "I like matching vintage pieces with new objects, *and I am proud of the style I have created–it's my signature.*"

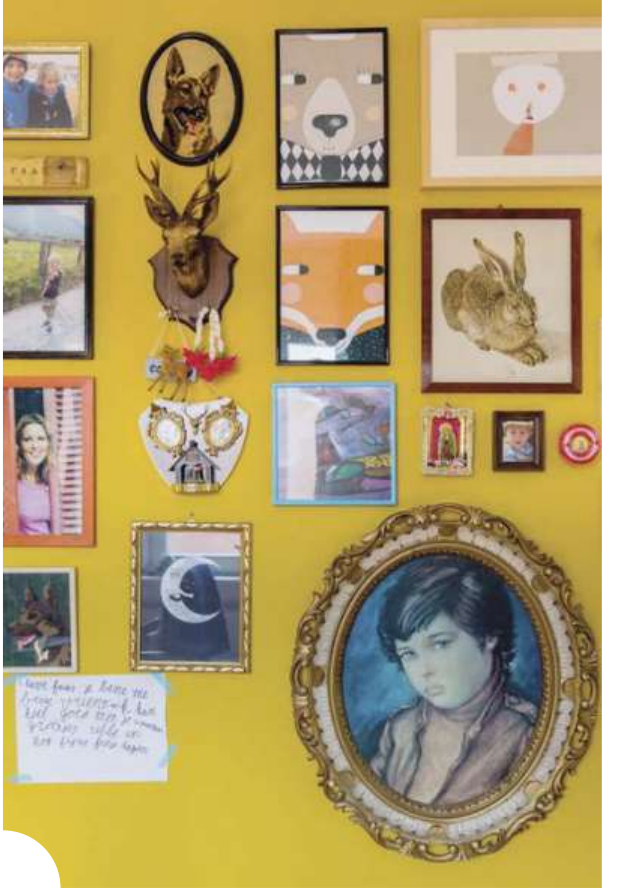
6. COMING UP ROSES

The wooden floor throughout the house was left in its original state, treated with just a fresh coat of varnish. Linda also kept the original marble fireplace in the bedroom, but only as a decorative piece. Because she never succeeded in finding the perfect headboard, Linda created her own by installing a long shelf at the head of the bed for books, with sconces on each side.



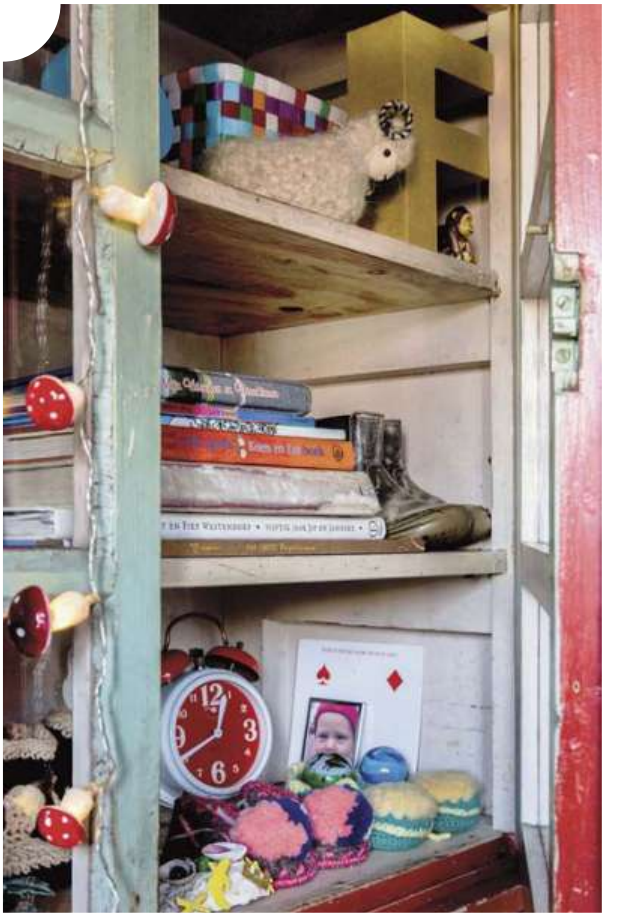

Tip
Create a vibrant mural with wallpaper. To save on the cost and to prevent overwhelming the space, consider just wallpapering one wall.
F
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7





7. PRICELESS KEEPSAKES

An item's monetary value or the brand or designer isn't important when it comes to Linda's prized possessions. All of the pieces in her home have an emotional, sentimental value. Ask her what one of her most treasured items is and she'll tell you it's this little stone, painted in pink and blue, which rests on a vintage tin on the mantelpiece.



1

tip

Display vintage painted shutters to add a rustic texture to your home's cool palette.

1. BRIC-A-BRAC BEAUTY
In the living room, homeowner Dorine Engelen-Faassen stores a white trunk that she found at a market, set against the original brick wall. The white paint is peeling and chipped, but she likes its weathered effect, so she decided not to restore it. The ornaments on the shelf above are all items found at one vintage sale or other, yet they go together perfectly with her neutral palette.



Winter Wonderland

A homeowner celebrates the season with a soft, dreamy palette of pastels and vintage finds.

BY GERALDINE NESBITT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY PEGGY JANSSEN

STYLING BY WILMA CUSTERS AND DORINE ENGELEN | PRODUCED BY FEATURES & MORE



2. SMALL HOME SOLUTION
"I like to put a few small trees at different spots in the house," Dorine says. "I never considered a big tree because it takes up too much room." In her 600-square-foot home, silver and white baubles, old photographs and dried gypsophila rosettes are sprinkled throughout. The small trees are potted plants that will be moved into the garden once winter is over and brought back inside next Christmas.

Crisp snow and icy temperatures can only mean one thing: The holiday season is upon us. Dorine Engelen-Faassen, the owner of a vintage décor shop, celebrates the holiday by filling her 600-square-foot home with antique decorations, glowing lights and the warmth of a sizzling fire. As soon as you enter her 1930s home, you are embraced by powdery pastels that set the tone for a festive feel.

Light and Bright

"I wanted to create a home that was authentic, welcoming and light," Dorine says.

When Dorine and her siblings were young, her parents bought the house next door to their main home and converted the two spaces into one; Dorine still lives in this house today (though she split the space back into two homes), full of memories old and new.

"It was either that or sell it, and I couldn't imagine the house not being in our family. I loved it and knew it would be a great place to raise my children," she says.

All in the Family

When Dorine moved in, the house was structurally in good condition but wasn't decorated to her liking. Dorine loves pastel colors and has a fondness for everything chipped and shabby. Her home and her shop are her passions in life, and one reflects the style sense of the other.

"When I find a new piece, I have to have it around me for a while. Only when it is replaced by the next purchase is it put on sale in the shop," she says. "Furniture should emanate coziness and warmth." Dorine only revarnishes or repaints when necessary, but she does see the beauty in worn items.

"I was happy here as a child and I am still happy here. Everyone is immediately relaxed when they come here—especially my siblings who, like me, are happy that the house is still in the family."

See Sources, page 128.



tip

Use antique lace to take a plain big-box store lampshade from drab to fab.



tip

Upcycle this inexpensive flea-market score: black-and-white photographs. With thread, they become inspired vintage ornaments. Use your own family photos for even more nostalgic appeal.



3

3. A FESTIVE TABLESCAPE
Throughout the house, the warmth and joy of Christmas is brought to life through décor, lighting and a welcoming atmosphere that prevails. The mini Christmas trees strategically placed on the window ledge turn the dining room into a true winter wonderland. For Dorine and her family, Christmas is the time to come together around the old English foldable table to enjoy delicious food served on antique china.



tip

Display a collection of antique porcelain cheeseboards lined up in a row for maximum effect, set against a colorful backdrop.









4. PRESERVING HISTORY
The floors in the kitchen and living room are made from stone and salvaged tiles that once graced an 1880s farmhouse. Dorine's painted furniture can be seen here, as well as in every room of the house. "We didn't want to change things unnecessarily," Dorine says. "The house has a truly genuine atmosphere, which is important. I like soft, light colors, so we did paint all the walls and put in light-colored furniture."

tip

If you come across a secondhand piece of furniture missing hardware, don't be afraid to buy it. The look will be cozy and welcoming without it, or you can buy new handles.

4



5

5. GRAY AND GRANITE
An important component of Dorine's style is quality. Here, her simple white kitchen with solid granite worktops is elegant and timeless. When it came to painting the kitchen walls, she used a color similar to the countertops for a concrete look. From vintage pewter to cake tins and antique sconces, secondhand finds are displayed all around.

tip

Make a simple kitchen color scheme pop with colorful, salvaged tiles on the floor.



When I find a new piece, I have to have it around me for a while.

Only when it is replaced by the next purchase is it put on sale in the shop.





Counting Sheep

Create a festive scene with a flock of these wool German Putz figures.

- **What to collect:** Antique German Putz
- **History:** These German sheep figures were originally used in Christmas Nativity scenes and were produced from the early 1900s through the '30s. Their wool coats, matchstick wood legs and colorful collars make them iconic holiday collector's items.
- **Where to find it:** You'll have better luck finding these sheep online through stores like Etsy or eBay than at the flea market, typically for about $10 to $20 a piece depending on the size and condition.
- **What to look for:** These delicate figures are hand-painted, with ribbon collars. If you're paying upwards of $20 for one, make sure it is in good condition with all its features intact.
- **How to display it:** Though they stand only about two to three inches high, these cute critters create a charming Christmas display when lined up in a row. If one can't stand on its own, repurpose it with string into a vintage ornament.





6. SERENELY SOFT
Upstairs in Dorine's bedroom, Lovely Grey from the PTMD paint collection decorates the walls and features a soft purple undertone that adds a dose of feminine charm. Cute crocheted cushions from Jeanette Philipse and soft linen curtains bring cozy accents to the room. On her nightstands, vintage finds like cobbler's shoes and antique finials complete the dreamy space.





Silver Bells

Collect these holiday finds for a festive feel that truly sparkles.

- **What to collect:** Vintage mercury-glass ornaments
- **History:** Made in the 1950s and '60s, authentic mercury-glass ornaments today can be hard to come by because there are so many reproductions out there. But their sturdiness allowed them to stand the test of time. Mercury glass has a metallic appearance, and these ornaments come in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes, some with starburst indents in the center.
- **Where to find it:** If you find some at a flea market, ask the seller whether the ornaments are truly mercury glass, so you don't buy reproduction pieces. Etsy and eBay will also have many to choose from.
- **What to look for:** Most ornaments you'll find will have spots due to their age because of oxidation. Embrace their aged appearance. Check that the caps are original and that they haven't been replaced with new ones. A set of 12 can set you back about $60.
- **How to display it:** If your ornaments are missing the caps and you can't hang them on the tree, display a grouping in a bowl as a sparkly table accent or centerpiece.



> “I wanted to create a home that was *authentic, welcoming and light.*”





7

8



7. & 8. ALL ABOUT THE MIX
Dorine's daughter Michelle loves an all-white color scheme. Her pristine bedroom is decorated and furnished with secondhand pieces bought at various flea markets and tag sales. A blank canvas was created on the walls using Hot White from PTMD. Visual interest comes in the form of texture, from a rattan basket to the crocheted lampshade and quilt.





9. A GARDEN IN BLOOM
In her garden house off the living room, Dorine removed the front wall and painted the remaining walls white. By using the same colors, textures and style of the main home, she turned her garden house into an extension of the space. A handmade chandelier hangs above the table, made from candles and a wreath of asparagus fern and gypsophila.



9





1

1. WHITE CHRISTMAS
In the kitchen, homeowner Viveca Runestam built the white-painted shelves to display her collection of white-and-blue English porcelain. This monochromatic space with whitewashed floors is enlivened with traditional red and green accents for the holiday. On the side table, she even used a tureen as a creative planter.



A Country Christmas

One couple celebrates the vintage style of their 1800s farmhouse with festive holiday finds.

BY MONA RYBERG NORDGREN/IDECOR IMAGES
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAGNAR ÓMARSSON/IDECOR IMAGES
PRODUCED BY ANNCATRIN ROSENQVIST/IDECOR IMAGES





Tip **Your display doesn't have to be huge** to have a big impact on the room. Here, a tiny tree on an antique tray is a festive feast for the eyes.



In a restored farmhouse dating back to the early 1800s lives creative couple Viveca and Finn Runestam.

When you enter their beautiful home, a sense of timelessness radiates from the space's preserved original floors and windows, which have an irreplaceable patina. Their home is completely furnished with antique furniture and vintage accents yet is very much fresh and full of life.

Viveca and her husband live and work in their home, upcycling old pieces and restoring furniture. For many years now, Viveca has owned her own antiques shop—and her favorite finds often end up on display at home rather than in the store.

Farmhouse Found

In the 1980s Viveca and Finn first came across their home, formerly a farm with 80 dairy cows and over 30 young cattle. Viveca and Finn, who both had previous experience in agricultural work, took care of the farm for over 10 years. But overburdened by the amount of work, they later switched to producing just grain. The change to a more relaxed lifestyle gave Viveca the time to pursue her passion for antiques and open a shop. She now runs her business from home,

2. WARM GLOW
In this cozy corner, Viveca hid an unsightly radiator by placing an antique side table in front of it. During the holidays, she decorates the table with a small Christmas tree, which draws the eyes up to the mini crystal chandelier hanging above it. To make the room feel lighter and brighter, Viveca used a coat of white paint on the floors, which adds romantic appeal.





> To keep the integrity of their old spaces alive, ***Viveca furnished her home with a mixture of vintage finds.***

storing her antiques for sale in one of the farm's warehouses.

Viveca and Finn's home, a red two-story building once divided into two apartments for the farm workers, was converted into one 1,600-square-foot cozy home with six rooms. To keep the integrity of their old spaces alive, Viveca furnished her home with a mixture of vintage finds.

Second Time Around

Viveca doesn't just think of antiques as expensive collectibles; in fact, the opposite is true. She views her collectibles as special pieces to live with, use often, cultivate and enjoy. Her old porcelain tableware, which she found at various flea markets, was affordable and has more character than run-of-the-mill pieces from a big-box store.

Imperfections in furniture don't take away the splendor of the object for her. Viveca sometimes paints furniture, but she prefers that pieces be kept as is. So it's no surprise that when winter rolls around, she brings the Christmas spirit indoors with vintage items that have been in homes where children have played, people have lived and memories have been made. It is this charm that makes Viveca's home so special; it carries traces of many generations past and hints of many fond Christmases to come.


Tip
Use a window ledge as a place to display vintage finds, such as candlesticks, vases and bowls. For visual interest, showcase items of various heights.



3. A FESTIVE FEAST
Viveca's favorite part about the holidays is gathering around a vintage-inspired table setting with family and friends. In this dining room, a primary color scheme takes center stage, as the yellow walls coordinate beautifully with the red table runner and blue dishware. From the silver platters to porcelain urn, the table is set from top to bottom with her collection of vintage finds.

3

4. A TASTE FOR TIMELESS DÉCOR

In the yellow dining room, two old salvaged doors leaning against the wall bring the outdoors in. The juxtaposition of the yellow wall color with the grayish white color on the ceiling and beams adds contrast to the diverse look. The furniture in this room spans several eras, from the 1700s to 1900s, and styles, such as Scandinavian and Gustavian.



Tip

Wreaths aren't just for hanging on the door. Bring them inside for a festive touch and a lively pop of green.





5. WELCOME HOME

In this entryway, winter style reigns with a plethora of cozy fabrics and rustic textures. Viveca's antique chest provides storage and a place to display brass candlesticks and a lamp upcycled into a vase. On the floor, an antique sled rests atop a colorful Turkish rug. To show off her home's original features and let in tons of natural light, Viveca doesn't hang curtains on the windows.



Small Details with Big Impact

You don't need a huge Christmas tree to make your home come alive for the holidays. Here are 5 ways to add the holiday spirit—on a smaller scale.

- **Window Treatment:** Look to your window frames as the perfect place to display festive garlands. Homeowner Viveca Runestam uses window ledges as a way to display antique candlesticks and vases.
- **Porcelain Pretty:** Dishware isn't just for eating. Viveca fills her tureens with soil and uses them as planters during the winter. They even make wonderful centerpieces for a festive holiday tablescape.
- **Make the Rounds:** Viveca makes her own holiday wreaths by gathering sprigs of green foliage and tying them together with green wire. A simple red ribbon tops off the look. You can display wreaths all throughout your home, not just on the front door.
- **Upcycle with Style:** Using a vintage lamp base as a stand, Viveca constructs small Christmas trees to display all over her home. She decorates them by hanging small candy canes, tiny vintage ornaments and ribbon on the branches to complete the look.
- **Draw the Eyes Up:** Hang fresh sprigs from a chandelier not only to provide a fresh scent when entertaining but also to add eye-catching color to a room.



tip

Don't toss out a broken crystal chandelier. Here, the prisms were upcycled into simple Christmas ornaments for the tree.

1. RUSTIC AND REFINED

French style is in full bloom in this room decorated for Christmas. Soft light emanates from the large windows, while the furniture's curved lines have a romantic feel that juxtaposes well with the industrial elements and worn, rustic finds. The Christmas tree is decorated simply using prisms from an old crystal chandelier and candles. The wreath in the window was made with eucalyptus, olive sprigs and bay leaves.



BROCANTE Beauty

Celebrate the season by decorating your home the French way: simple, impactful and rustically romantic.

BY HELENA HOLMSTED/IDECOR IMAGES

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN CEDERBLAD/IDECOR IMAGES



2. OUT OF THE BLUE
This antique chaise lounge from the 1800s was stripped of its original upholstery. The look was so beautiful that the homeowner didn't have the heart to reupholster it completely. Set against a dramatically vibrant blue wall, this cozy sitting spot couldn't be any more striking.

2

The essence of French style is about simplicity, seeing the beauty in everyday objects and timeless décor unfazed by trends.

Things found at a *brocante*, the French word for flea market, form the basis of the style—even when it comes to French holiday décor.

From mismatched furniture to just a few key pieces working harmoniously together, we'll show you how to achieve this romantic, elegant look using flea-market finds and simple yet impactful styling.

Casual Elegance

Items that are old, worn and rusty can find a home in any French-style inspired space. The foundation for this look is a neutral color palette and textiles in various natural materials, all tied together by collections of things that are meaningful to you. The end result should feel simple and rustic, with a well-curated mix of furniture and trinkets. When several materials are combined, such as dark wood, metals and linen and cotton textiles, it creates a visual feast for the eyes.

A seamless blend of looks is also important in French style. The curved legs of deconstructed furniture signal romance, and when they are combined with pieces like industrial-style metal chairs from an abandoned factory, the look is chic and refined but not stuffy.

Simply Beautiful

Achieving French style is all in the details. For example, try creating vignettes during the Christmas season by grouping old glass bottles with baroque candlesticks and a colorful Madonna image. Infuse rich, vibrant accents into your palette of neutrals in the form of eye-catching statement pieces. Your main colors can be cream and white, with just a few touches of red and green, perhaps in vintage bottles and glass or fabrics.

The finishing touch should come in the form of natural elements. Take a walk outdoors and pick up green foliage to put in vases or to form a wreath with. Instead of large, lush bouquets, simple sprigs draped from a chandelier or a few hyacinths in glass jars will do the trick. There's no need to overthink this look. When it comes to stress-free French holiday décor, the simpler the better.

See Sources, page 128.






tip
Keep your tablescape visually interesting by playing with various heights. Here, a low-hanging chandelier and tall vase with flowers keep the eyes dancing.



Get the Look

Style your own French-inspired tablescape using these 5 main ingredients.

1. **Mismatched chairs:** Mix industrial-style metal stools and chairs with wooden chairs for a relaxed look. On both ends of the table you can also add armchairs. Pick furniture with thin legs to prevent the look from overwhelming the space.
2. **Vintage dishes:** The great thing about a vintage-inspired tablescape is that you can use collections of plates and dishes that don't have to match. Use the designs on your plates to form the basis for your look's color palette. Here, the green leaves on the plates allowed green to be reintroduced on the chairs, glasses and vintage bottles.
3. **Neutral linens:** If you're gathering your guests around a farmhouse table, the natural color of the wood can provide inspiration to use neutral-colored textiles. Think cotton napkins, a burlap table runner or a sisal carpet underneath the table to set the stage.
4. **Antique chandelier:** A chandelier can be used inside or outdoors and will be the focal point for your look. Find an ornate statement piece that you love. This one is a wrought-iron chandelier with candles that cast a romantic glow. If you choose a crystal chandelier the look will be more extravagant, while a simpler design will evoke a more casual feel.
5. **Farmhouse accents:** French style is simple and unfussy, and your table setting can be the same way. Find rustic wire egg baskets at a flea market, and fill them with fruits such as apples or figs to create easy yet colorful centerpieces.


“Items that are old, worn and rusty can find a home in any French-style inspired space.”
tip
Create an easy-to-make wreath or garland by tying olive branches and eucalyptus with floral wire.



tip

Sometimes flea-market finds are better left untouched. Here, a French armchair from the 1700s was left without a covering for a rustic, shabby look.



3



3. A MIXTURE OF TEXTURES
Don't be afraid to use a variety of textures to achieve a French look. Rusty wire baskets, wrought-iron candlesticks and chipped furniture can be softened when paired with pretty linens and flowers displayed in a vase.





1. BEACHY KEEN
The cream paint on the dining set and baker's rack give the set a light and airy feel that is right at home in a beach cottage. Layering antique lace over a vintage tablecloth gives the newer glass-top table character. Placing an area rug under the table creates a visual space to delineate the dining area within the open floor plan.

1



Tip **Use a rustic farm ladder** as a clever way to display vintage table linens. Simply lean it against a wall for easy access that takes up little room.

Where Snowbirds Nest for Winter

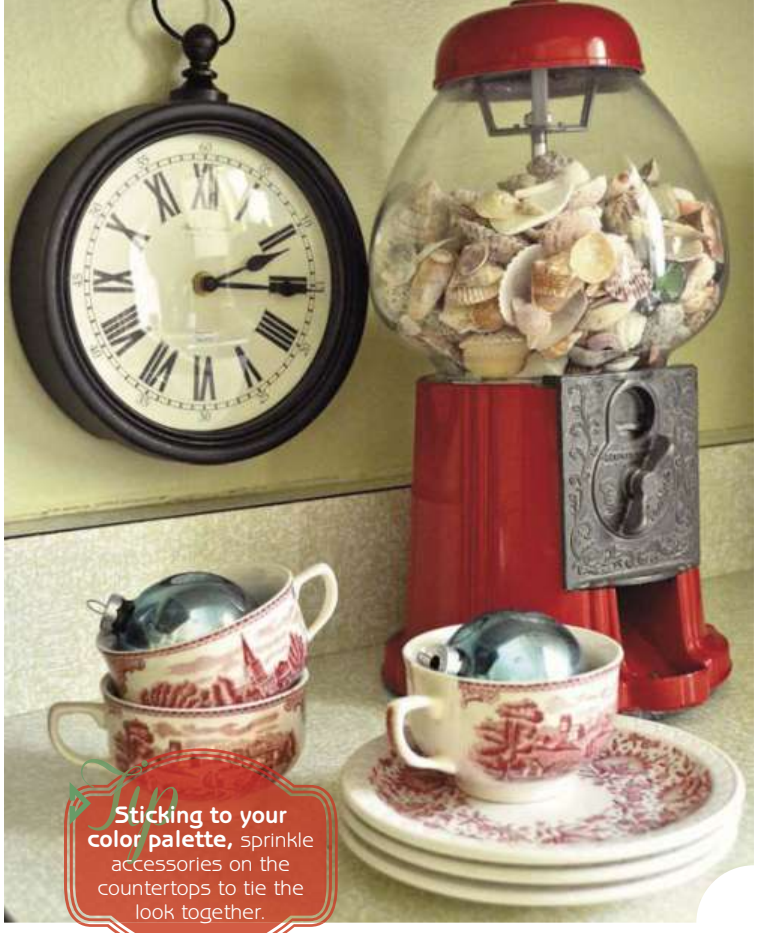
One couple leaves the New England cold behind and heads south each Christmas to celebrate in their beach cottage.

WRITTEN, PHOTOGRAPHED AND STYLED BY MELINDA GRAHAM



2. MISMATCHED SPLENDOR
The walls of the living room are decorated with reckless abandon. Clever accessories like the license-plate flamingo are mixed with vintage plates and the homeowner's artwork. The approach of the layout is echoed in the pattern of the antique quilt placed as a slipcover on the couch.

2



Tip
Sticking to your color palette, sprinkle accessories on the countertops to tie the look together.

As the air becomes crisp and the first snowflakes begin to fall, one couple packs their bags to head to a place where the breeze blows palm trees and the sun warms the sand every day. Living the life of snowbirds in their charming cottage on the Gulf of Mexico is, for them, the perfect way to escape harsh New England winters.

Small Home, Big Style

Having two homes can come with a hefty price tag, but fortunately these homeowners have a penchant for collecting and a love of all things vintage. Finding the right cottage on the right island was the first task; then came a few minor tweaks. The scale of the home is petite, but the open plan and large glass doors make the rooms feel bright and spacious. The walls are painted a



Tip
Make custom pieces by layering vintage ephemera over antique artwork. Mount them inside ornate frames to create instant art.



Tip
Fill a vintage wire birdcage with Shiny-Brite ornaments for a festive look during the holidays.

3. FIT TO SIZE

An area rug is used in the living room to create a conversational space within the open plan. It also provides visual warmth to the tile floor. Here, an eclectic mix of furnishings all work harmoniously together. The color palette is consistent throughout the space, yet the furnishings are a blend of several different styles. The scale and careful use of accessories make everything come together in a seemingly effortless fashion.



3



DIY Corkboard Display

Show off your vintage paper ornaments in a new way with this display idea.

What you'll need:

- Corkboard
- Fabric
- Scissors
- Staple gun
- Vintage paper ornaments
- Pushpins

What you'll do:

1. Find a corkboard either at a flea market or a new one from an office supply store.
2. Cut your fabric to length. (You want to cover your board with about an extra 1-inch perimeter on each side).
3. Use the staple gun to affix the fabric to the back, pulling it taut across the front of the board.
4. Hang your corkboard on the wall, and use pushpins to display your vintage Christmas paper ornaments or other small knickknacks. Once Christmas is over, this board is a great way to hang notes and memos.



4

4. COZY CORNER

One element of classic cottage style is decorative vignettes. This little grouping forms a cozy niche at the end of the cabinetry: a painted wooden chair piled with vintage-fabric-covered pillows is the anchor of the grouping, flanked by a few miniature topiaries, old oars and a charming picnic basket.



5. FLOWER POWER
A vibrant floral quilt provided the inspiration for this cottage bedroom. The quilted wall hanging features a vintage embroidered linen, and the bedding and pillows are layered to perfection.



pale green to blend with the surrounding exotic foliage, and the trim and tile floors are off-white. To keep the home looking spacious, the existing cabinets were painted a shade darker than the walls, while the vintage hardware keeps the kitchen feeling retro.

When it came time to furnish and decorate the space, finding wonderful pieces at thrift shops and flea markets was not a chore, but rather an added bonus. The key furnishings are a mix-and-match assortment of upholstered pieces, rattan, wood and metal. The palette of the mainstays is neutral, and the color comes from the array of fun vintage finds and kitsch collectibles.

Decorate for You

Most people associate summertime with a beach house, but for these snowbirds, part of the fun of escaping the cold north is finding themselves on a tropical island for the holidays. Decorating for a tropical holiday opens the door to a fun and festive spin on traditional décor. Snowmen peek between starfish, ornaments of every cheerful color feel right at home and flamingos stand tall next to miniature Christmas trees.

When you surround yourself with vintage treasures that have been lovingly collected and hand-selected, there aren't any hard and fast rules for decorating. Live with what you love, be creative and design your nest to reflect your lifestyle. These principles are even more true when it comes to decorating for the holidays.

For more information on stylist Melinda Graham, visit surroundingsbymelinda.com.



6. BLOSSOMED BEAUTY
The bedroom furnishings are painted in the same green and cream palette as the rest of the home, which ties everything together. The hand-painted details add an elegant floral element and feminine appeal that blends well with the garden aesthetic.

6



Tip Combine collections for a fun and whimsical approach to decorating, like this antique bowl filled with found objects from beach walks and flea markets.



Merry and Brite

Collect these vintage ornaments to add eye-catching color to your holiday look.

- **What to collect:** Shiny-Brite ornaments
- **History:** These colorful ornaments, created by Max Eckardt in 1937, were produced in America from the 1940s through '50s. The ornaments' metal cap was replaced with a cardboard tab during the war in the 1940s but was reinstated with a new, longer metal hook after the war. As aluminum Christmas trees grew in popularity, sales of the ornaments declined until they were discontinued in 1960.
- **Where to find it:** Today you can easily find Shiny-Brites at flea markets, auctions and online. They are more valuable in full sets and when housed in the original box.
- **What to look for:** Find designs that speak to you, whether you prefer ornaments in a solid color, stripes, stenciled or with starburst insets. You can find a set of 12 in the original box for about $25.
- **How to display it:** Hang these iconic ornaments on your tree or display them in a Depression-glass bowl for a powerful pop of color on a side table.





1. HOLIDAY HAVEN
In the living room, a palette of white is kept interesting with a variety of textures. The couch, found online, was originally an ugly brown, but was reupholstered. Homeowner Sandra Jonkman shows off her silver ornaments in their original box inside her vintage display cabinet with a glass door. A tall apothecary cabinet on the left provides ample storage, while antique metal cans stacked on top bring a dark accent into the room.



Glisten & Glow

A neutral palette and warm lighting come together in this festive home for the holidays.

BY GERALDINE NESBITT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNEKE GAMBIAN
STYLING BY LINDIVIDU | PRODUCED BY COCOFEATURES.COM


A.C.BOUMAN.
PARFU
La M
MADAME
ROUSSEAU

For the past six years, Sandra Jonkman, her partner, Johan, and their children have been the proud inhabitants of a 1930s detached red brick home.

The house was in quite bad shape when they bought it, and many of the authentic features were boarded up. But one by one, the couple restored them. Under their meticulous hand, features such as the beamed ceilings, glass paneled en-suite doors and wooden floors were restored to their former glory. In this warm and welcoming house, Sandra's love affair with romantic interiors flourished.

Unconventional Christmas

It took a while, but after quite some time spent renovating, renewing and preserving, Sandra can now sit back and enjoy her wonderful home. Seen



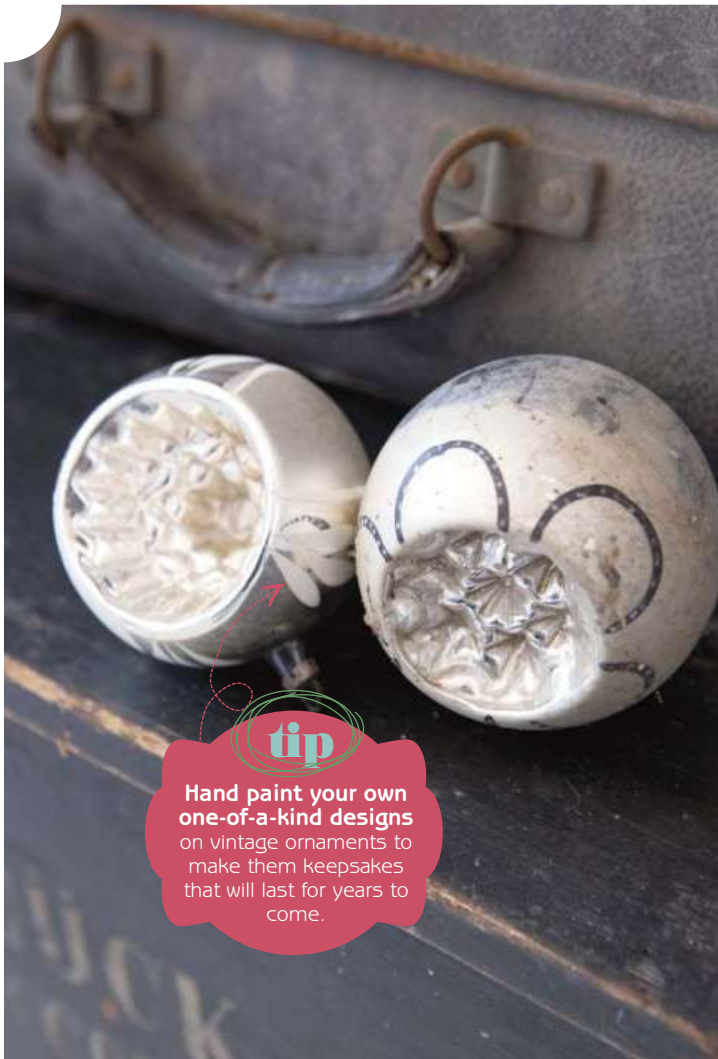
tip

Use vintage metal flower frogs as a unique way to display your old photos. These photos become even more special placed under a glass cloche.



tip

Don't throw out your vintage ornaments that no longer have hooks or are damaged! For a whimsical touch, Sandra displays hers inside an antique birdcage, which she scored for just $11.



tip

Hand paint your own one-of-a-kind designs on vintage ornaments to make them keepsakes that will last for years to come.


KB81-31



on a winter's day, it has a dreamy appearance that conjures up images of hot cocoa, a warm fireplace and mistletoe hanging from the door. "The house has such a good feel to it already that creating the Christmas atmosphere requires very little extra effort," Sandra says.

Transforming the house for Christmas happens gradually. Sandra starts by strategically placing candles on the mantelpiece and in front of the stained-glass windows and bringing out her prettiest flea-market finds, with a sprig of holly and mistletoe here and there. It all adds to the already warm and welcoming vibe.

For Sandra, the holidays are all about festive baubles, candles, twigs and branches. It would be all too easy to give in to the idea of decorating the branches, gathered during the walks she takes in the woods with her dogs,

2. AROUND THE TABLE
Christmas dinner is served around Sandra's large wooden farmhouse table, which she drapes with antique linen on special occasions. With an antique wood-burning fireplace, this is the only heated room in the house, and long dinner conversations and old-fashioned board games here typify the winters spent in this space.





tip

Gather pinecones and twigs to set on your holiday table. Here, they are juxtaposed with the shiny mercury glass for an elegant yet rustic look.



tip

Make your holiday table extra special with the simple addition of vintage lace around your napkins.

but she resists that urge and hangs them just as she finds them. Bare and simple, they are beautiful.

Inventive Ideas

"I don't do any special Christmas styling or turn the house upside down," Sandra says, "not even a Christmas tree to disrupt the harmony or give the house an overly cluttered feel." Sandra does, however, fill her antique birdcage with Christmas ornaments, display reindeer moss in an old baking tray and deck her window shutters with angel wings.

Because the living room does not have a fireplace, on cold winter nights everyone congregates in the dining room. Looking through the glass-paneled doors into the living room, you see Sandra's love for white and pastels everywhere. The off-white walls, the original white-stained floorboards, the beamed ceiling and the antique chandelier are the perfect backdrop for vintage finds, such as the large couch, which she bought online and had reupholstered and painted white.

It's even Christmas in Sandra's garden, which is cheerfully lit up for the festive season. A centerpiece on the outdoor table and lanterns that are hung each year turn the outdoors into a winter wonderland. "If we're lucky enough to have a white Christmas, it's just perfect," she says.



tip

Upcycle tired shutters with a wall sconce to turn them into a one-of-a-kind light fixture. During the holidays, Sandra displays her angel wings here for a heavenly glow.



3

5 Hot Finds for Industrial Style

Collect these 5 flea-market items to bring weathered appeal to your spaces.

- **Vintage storage:** An eye-catching display that also provides extra storage, suitcases and wooden crates are the perfect way to provide a worn yet practical element to your spaces. Sandra stacks her suitcases and painted crates underneath tables or against the wall. A few dings and scratches only add to their appeal.
- **Kitchenalia:** Nothing says industrial like shiny metallic accents. When it comes to kitchenware, look for items like a rusty kitchen scale, vintage tart tins and antique metal coffee tins. Display smaller items in glass jars to show them off without taking up much space.
- **Apothecary cabinet:** You'll be able to find this big-ticket item at a flea market. Though it might be in need of a coat of paint, an apothecary cabinet with many small drawers will get you an industrial look without breaking the bank.
- **Cast-iron urns:** Sandra owns several cast-iron urns, which tie in beautifully with her home's black-and-white color scheme. You can get creative and house a number of items inside, such as a small Christmas tree, or fill it with moss as a bed to display candles.
- **Pendant lights:** Pendant lights are inexpensive and instantly communicate industrial style. Hang a few large ones over a dining room table or opt for one with an accordion arm that can stretch out over a workspace.



tip

Who said ornaments were just for the tree? String them on a thin piece of wire for a fun holiday feel.



3. RESTORED SPLENDOR
The old blackboard, originally from a local music school, is one of Sandra's favorite curbside castoffs. She never contemplated wiping off the music that was scribbled on it because it adds to the piece's charm. The storage cabinet below was once yellow, but a fresh coat of white paint brought it back to life.



4. WARM AND WELCOMING
The white marble mantelpiece displays antique baubles like a candlestick, books, artwork and an industrial-style lamp. In this part of the house, the original wood paneling on the wall has been preserved. Weathered wooden shutters, pinecones and a basket filled with firewood bring winter touches to the space.





5. BRANCH OUT
Adding wooden branches makes Sandra's collection of apothecary bottles come to life. Behind them, an antique cabinet, once painted black but now weathered, shows off Sandra's collection of lace and white linens.

5





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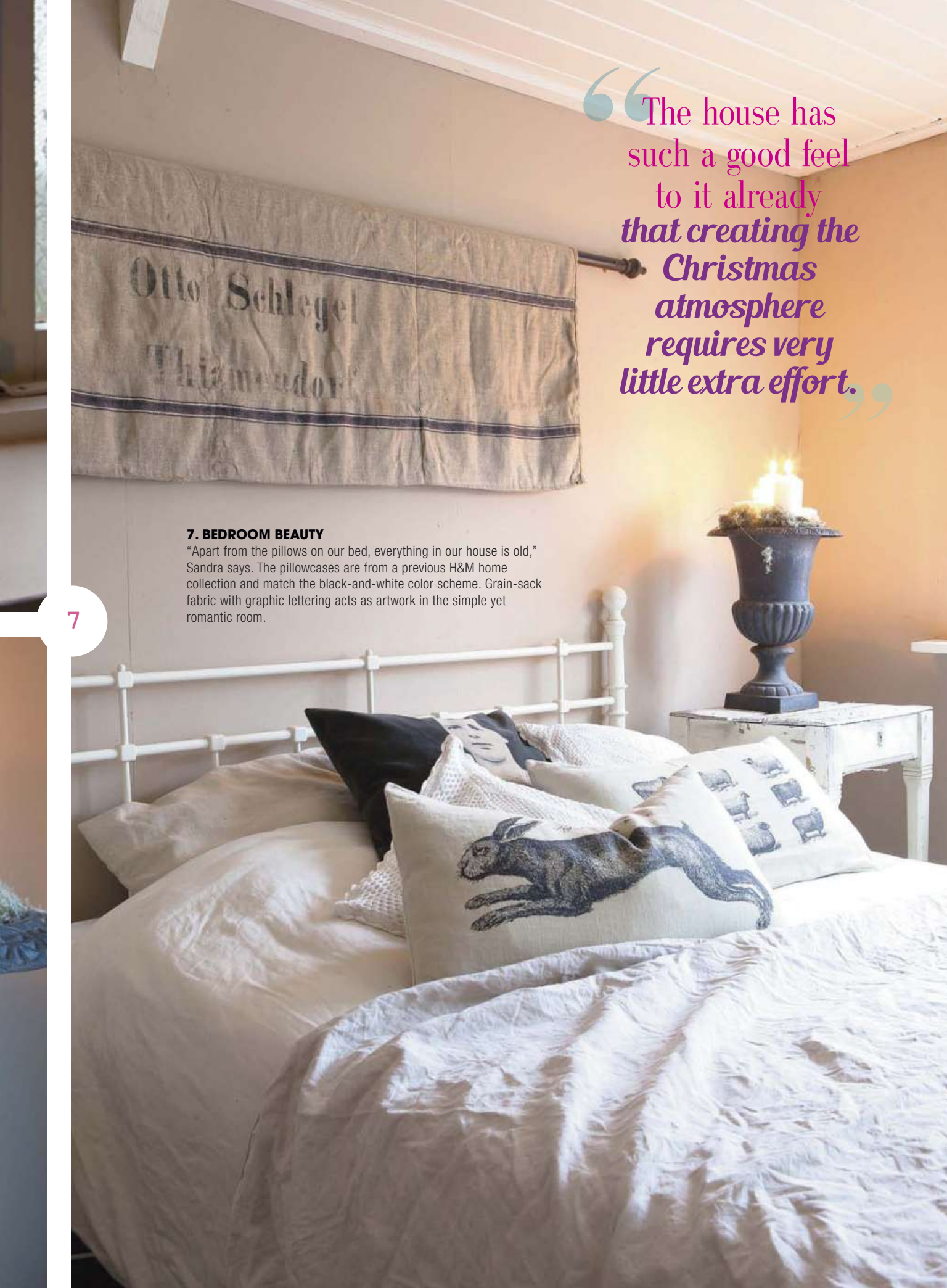




tip

Fill the top of a cast-iron urn with moss, and rest candles in the middle to bring a hint of the outdoors in for the holidays.

6. BLACK AND WHITE DELIGHT
All is merry and bright in this Christmas vignette in Sandra's signature neutral color palette. For a whimsical look, she decked out her shelves with a combination of antique children's shoes, silver ornaments, an old black-and-white photo and votives to give the cozy corner a warm, soothing vibe.



> The house has such a good feel to it already ***that creating the Christmas atmosphere requires very little extra effort.***

7. BEDROOM BEAUTY
"Apart from the pillows on our bed, everything in our house is old," Sandra says. The pillowcases are from a previous H&M home collection and match the black-and-white color scheme. Grain-sack fabric with graphic lettering acts as artwork in the simple yet romantic room.


Tip
There's no such thing as too many ornaments! To achieve this extravagant look, trim a small tree with oversized ornaments in a plethora of shapes. Top it with a silk flower and ribbon.



A Pastel Noel

Breathe life into your holiday décor with a candy-colored pastel palette.

WRITTEN, PHOTOGRAPHED AND STYLED BY VANESSA VALENCIA



Upcycle a tomato cage into a one-of-a-kind Christmas tree with the simple addition of ornaments.







Tip **No space is off limits when it comes to holiday decorating! Strewing pastel-colored ornaments on a mantel** is an easy way to dazzle. Here, fresh red berries in a glass vase complete the unfussy look.



Tip **Even though it's Christmas,** break out other flea-market finds that match your pastel color palette. Here, a vintage birdcage is adorned with bunting and dried roses for the occasion.



A pastel Christmas is just what the Sugar Plum Fairy ordered.

The light and dreamy tones of a pastel color scheme can create a wonderfully whimsical feeling of times gone by. Decorating with a pastel theme will breathe new life into your holiday decorating, while still retaining that Christmas spirit we want to celebrate each year.

Gravitate towards hues like mint green, teal, cream, pink, lime green, gold and silver, which work beautifully together, to create a soft palette with a vintage flair. Scour yard sales, thrift stores, flea markets and eBay for vintage-style items to go with your look, such as mercury-glass ornaments.

Add pink and light teal ribbon on your Christmas tree, along with sparkly bits and bobs, to enhance the shiny ornaments for a festive feel. This is not a difficult look to achieve: simply use some older, weathered items with patina alongside newer metallic pieces. Capture a sense of hope on your holiday tree using timeless items like birds, stars, ribbon, pink silk flowers and gold tinsel. Finish off the look with glitter—you can never go wrong with a hint of sparkle.

This pastel palette creates a wonderfully welcoming ambience, setting the perfect backdrop for charming antiques and vintage bliss. Once you give this way of decorating a try, you'll long for the light, soothing colors all year round.



Tip **This homeowner proves** that ornaments can be hung anywhere in the house. Think outside the box to make your home sparkle this season.



Tip **Give a few of your vintage trinkets special attention** by placing them under a glass cloche. The winter wonderland inside evokes timeless charm.





Tip

To dye the trees quickly, work outside to avoid bleach fumes and wear gloves and a mask. Fill a large bowl with half hot water, half bleach (50/50 ratio). The more bleach you use, the faster the tree will turn white. Place a few trees in the bowl and remove them when the desired color is achieved. (It takes about 30 seconds or less.) Rinse the trees thoroughly under cold water and place them on paper towels to dry.









I'm Dreaming of a Mint, Cream and White Christmas.

Add flair to your holiday décor. Bleach bottlebrush trees for a fun vintage effect.

BLEACHED BOTTLEBRUSH TREES

What you'll need:

- Standard dark green bottlebrush trees
- Bleach
- Bucket or large bowl
- Tongs
- Hot water
- Gloves
- Face mask
- Craft glue, paintbrush and glitter (optional)

What you'll do:

1. Buy your bottlebrush trees, which can be found in various sizes, at a craft supply store. You can achieve a lovely cream or mint tone by controlling the color during this 40-minute process to dye the trees. (For a quicker version, see the tip at the top left.)
2. Fill your large bucket with hot water (work outside or in a very well ventilated area, wearing a mask and gloves). Carefully pour 2 ½–3 cups of bleach into your water. Place several bottlebrush trees into the water and use tongs or a slotted spoon to swish them around; check them periodically. Be aware that the water will turn quite murky.
3. Over the course of 20–40 minutes, the trees will begin to change color. The slower they change, the more control you'll have over the color. The longer you leave the trees in, the lighter they will get, until they reach a cream tone.
4. Once you achieve your desired color, rinse the trees under cold water and let them dry completely.
5. You can take your vintage-style trees a step further by making them sparkle. Once your trees are completely dry, brush some white craft glue on them and sprinkle on the glitter. Let them dry completely; then they'll be ready to be enjoyed for years to come.

Ready, Set, Pro!

Style this rustically romantic tablescape like a pro in just 5 easy steps.

BY SARAH JANE O'KEEFE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRET GUM
STYLING BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL

This impactful table setting is easy to achieve when you take it step by step. Here, we show you how to bring elegant style to your holiday celebrations with quick, easy DIY touches.

1 Start with a neutral base.

For a table that is as festive as fresh-fallen snow, start with a neutral base of white and burlap. Use a collection of wood and white chairs to further the theme. Burlap ribbon wreaths topped with fresh holly berries unite the mismatched seating with seasonal and palette-friendly cheer.

2 Use one accent color.

Let one bold color convey the good tidings of the Christmas season. Red wine glasses, berries, ribbons, bottlebrush-tree place-card holders and party favors create vibrancy and an undeniably festive appeal.

3 Layer in metallic pieces.

A table setting isn't complete without a touch of metallic. Stick with one glistening hue, and the table will sparkle without finishes competing for attention. Bring in the gleam of silver by gathering a collection of votive holders, ornaments, garlands and flatware.

4 Celebrate contrast.

Vintage and new; metallic and rustic; dainty and heavy. Craft a centerpiece that will defy expectations by featuring a curated collection of festive finds that fit your color scheme but give guests countless items to take in. This concept also applies to the place settings. Layer a delicately detailed charger with a more minimal plate, and top the set off with a tiny party favor.

5 Elongate the centerpiece.

Rather than constricting the star of your table to the exact middle, let it flow down the length of the space. This will allow for a greater display of holiday accents, and each guest will be able to fully appreciate the view. And be sure not to overlook height. Anchor the design with a tall candleholder and let the smaller pieces seemingly spill out from its base.


tip
Make your own snow-globe-inspired accent by hot-gluing a bottlebrush tree to the inside of a Mason jar lid. Embellish it with beads and festive paper signs and let it set before reattaching the jar and adding a few tablespoons of fake snow.
tip
Turn the runner! Opt for shorter runners and lay them across the shorter width of the table. Each one will serve as a placemat for two people for an extra layer of dimension.
tip
Set a truffle in a mini cupcake liner and cover it with a glass dome for a sweet accent.


PETERSEN









A One-Stop Holiday Shop









The Hobnob Market promises one-of-a-kind finds and something for everyone on your Christmas shopping list.

BY ASHLEY BURNETT

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNETTE WARSAW PHOTOGRAPHY

Like many success stories, Hobnob Market had humble beginnings. Its creator, Holly Snelling, and her husband were successful Etsy sellers, but despite their burgeoning shops, they still wanted more.

"We needed a bigger challenge than that," Holly says. The idea for a pop-up vintage and handmade market soon began to take form and in 2013, the first Hobnob Market was hosted in an Indiana restaurant's banquet hall with just 20 vendors. Despite being small, the market still managed to draw in 800 visitors.

Holiday Heaven

The success of Hobnob Market is, in large part, due to the variety of styles represented by the vendors, where guests can see items in a range of styles, from country and primitive to shabby. Also important is that visitors to Hobnob Market get what Holly calls the "complete experience." She says, "We tell the vendors, make your booth look like a miniature shop."

While vendors today are lining up to take part in Hobnob Market, Holly originally chased after most of the











sellers herself, and still does when she finds a vendor she's particularly excited about. "Customers never know what they're going to see," she says of the pop-up market's selection. It's this unpredictability that makes guests return throughout the year.

Discover Something New

"People know that, number one, they're going to absolutely see vendors that have been curated and, secondly, that they're going to find things they can't buy in big-box shops," Holly says.

Visitors to the Hobnob Holiday Market this year can expect the upbeat vendors, curated content and wide variety of goods that have made Hobnob Market so successful in the past. In addition, there will be more new and exciting vendors and an additional pop-up market two weeks after the first holiday market to accommodate the increase in guests that has occurred over the years. Despite the addition of a second holiday market, Holly says, "You can expect a unique market every time."

For more information on Hobnob's upcoming markets and vendor details, visit hobnobmarket.com.

What's in Store

If you're looking for a good time and good finds, check out Hobnob Market.

- **When:** The Hobnob Holiday Market will take place the weekend before Thanksgiving on November 20 and 21. A second holiday market will occur two weeks after on December 4 and 5.
- **Where:** The holiday markets will be in Danville Gardens in Danville, Illinois.
- **What to expect:** You'll find everything you might need for the upcoming holiday season, whether it's ornaments, greenery or gifts. The first market will feature returning vendors who are Hobnob favorites, while the second market will feature vendors new to the Hobnob Market—all of which have been carefully selected for their unique wares and vintage finds. Also new are the live band, Hobnob Market's own merchandise and the market's coffee vendor.
- **Shopping tip:** "Bring friends," Holly says. "I always see groups of women having a blast, teasing each other and helping to choose what they're going to get. Groups have so much fun."













Get the Goods

Creator Holly Snelling provides her top tips for striking gold at the flea market.

- **Early Bird:** The Hobnob Market runs for two days, but the most sought-after one-of-a-kind vintage items are usually gone by the end of Friday night. Get in early and buy those rare items you can't live without. You can enjoy the rest of the market on Saturday at a leisurely pace.
- **Mark the Spot:** When you enter the market, you'll be given a map of the venue. Use it to mark vendors you really like and want to remember in case you need to go back to purchase an item you couldn't decide on.
- **Tag, You're It:** Vendors often tag their products for upcoming Hobnob Markets on Instagram and other social media outlets. Check out the Hobnob Market hashtags in advance to see what will be appearing at the next Hobnob, and start making your holiday wish list early this year!



Group disparate photos and artwork together by unifying the look with cohesive frames.

1. MIDCENTURY REMIX
This half-globe gold pendant light is a great source of soft lighting during the winter. Stylist Selina Lake pairs it with a handmade copper-pipe candelabra that adds a little industrial edge to the dining table. The wall to the right shows a rustic wood finish that juxtaposes nicely with the sleek midcentury Eames and industrial-style work chairs.



THE Spirit of the SEASON

Stylist Selina Lake shows you how to turn your home into a vintage-inspired winter wonderland.

BY ASHLEY BURNETT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DEBI TRELOAR

1

A guide on how to bring the festivity of winter into your home with vintage decorations and DIY crafts, stylist Selina Lake's book *Winter Living* is a holiday necessity. With Lake's help, you can transform any room into a wintery scene, whether it's by creating a cushion cover made of repurposed knit sweaters for your living room, fashioning your own chandelier decorations for a New Year's Eve soiree or bringing in pine sprigs and rosemary from outdoors to lend your home a little natural fragrance during the coldest months.

Snowy Escape

No matter what style you're after, whether it's "faded grandeur" or something influenced by Scandinavia, everything in *Winter Living* is inspired by the most wonderful time of the year. Turning your home into a welcoming retreat during the coldest months will make that time spent indoors a joyous experience.

"There's something truly magical about winter. It's the time of year that makes us want to nest—to make our homes feel cozy and snug—and welcome friends and family at festive parties and gatherings," Lake writes.



Tip **Display simple twigs** with berries for a bright pop of color. "Berries are winter's version of spring blossoms," Lake says.

2. LET THERE BE LIGHT

Lake made these vintage paper pendants by cutting circles from the pages of old vintage books and applying them to large paper lanterns to mimic fish scales. "I also love the mix-and-match chairs grouped around the modern Scandi-style trestle table," she writes. The resulting look is dramatic using a neutral color scheme and bright because of ample natural light.

2



3

3. ROMANTIC IN WHITE

According to Lake, bare twigs and pinecone-studded branches are a great way to add a little drama to your winter decorations. In this room, the beadboard walls and ceiling have been painted a snowy winter white. "Leave wood floors bare or paint or bleach them white," Lake suggests. The resulting French-inspired look is romantic, with a feminine vibe.

Be My Guest

Lake not only encourages readers to redecorate their homes as the season changes, but also gives advice on how to prepare for all of the parties and holidays that winter ushers in. Take inspiration from her romantic New Year's Eve party held in an old barn, where she uses garden-fresh pickings as a centerpiece and drapes snug blankets over the chairs to keep guests warm. Or host your own color-pop party with neon pink candles and festive lights. You can also make your own Christmas presents for homemade splendor—friends and family will love your handmade creations like gilded picture frames or pear table decorations.

Here are some of Selina Lake's tips and tricks to infuse your home with the spirit of the season.



4

4. RUSTIC CHRISTMAS

Try substituting raspberry, pink, purple and olive green instead of the traditional red and green Christmas color scheme, as Lake did in this English country cottage with an Inglenook fireplace. "The country Christmas style is all about getting crafty, home baking and being creative with what nature has to offer," she writes.



Selina Lake Winter Living by Selina Lake, published by Ryland Peters & Small, © 2015; rylandpeters.com.

3 Easy DIY Ideas

All you'll need is a little time and a few supplies to craft these pretties and spread the holiday cheer.

1. **Patchwork Tree Baubles:** "You'll need plastic baubles, fabric, PVA glue and a glue brush, fabric scissors and a narrow ribbon," Lake writes. "Cut your chosen fabrics into small squares or rectangles. Once you have a pile of fabric pieces ready, use a (glue) brush to cover the bauble with PVA glue; then start sticking them on, overlapping the pieces so there aren't any gaps. Make a loop from the ribbon and hang (the bauble) up to dry."
2. **Christmas Tags and Cards:** "Scan your artwork or use an image you have saved to your computer. Open a photo-editing program, such as Photoshop, and make a grid of images to cover an A4/US letter-sized area. Adjust the color and tone if desired. Print it onto white cardstock and cut (the pictures) out. Then cut craft parcel tags into strips, add a Christmas label and tie them all together."
3. **Felt Bunting:** "You need red and two shades of green felt, red cotton thread, fabric scissors and a sewing machine. Cut out a selection of holly shapes in both shades of green felt. Next, cut circles from the red felt to make the berries. Thread up your sewing machine with the red cotton thread and start sewing the shapes together."



5. RING IN THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

Take inspiration from this New Year's Eve Party Lake threw in an old barn using fresh greens as a centerpiece and honeycomb bauble decorations. The white and green color scheme is enlivened with metallic accents, snug faux furs, mini Bundt cakes stacked on cake stands and artwork brought outdoors. Don't forget the sparklers!

Tip **"Can't find any plant pots to match your theme?** Wrap them with fabric and tie them up with string for an instant fix," Lake writes.

5



tip

These goody bags are perfect for wrapping a matching gingerbread man cookie! Make a batch of gingerbread dough, and cut out the gingerbread shapes using the card templates. Once cooled, pop the gingerbread inside the bags and adorn them with a matching label.

Make It & Bake It

Learn how to make these cute creations to give as easy, homemade gifts this year.

PROJECTS FROM *HANDMADE CHRISTMAS*

Nothing spreads Christmas cheer better than homemade treats, which will fill your home with sweet scents and fond memories. And what better way to gift them to all your friends than with these adorable DIY decorated goodie bags? Try these two projects this winter from the book *Handmade Christmas*, filled with over 35 projects for festive fun.

Goodie Bags and Labels

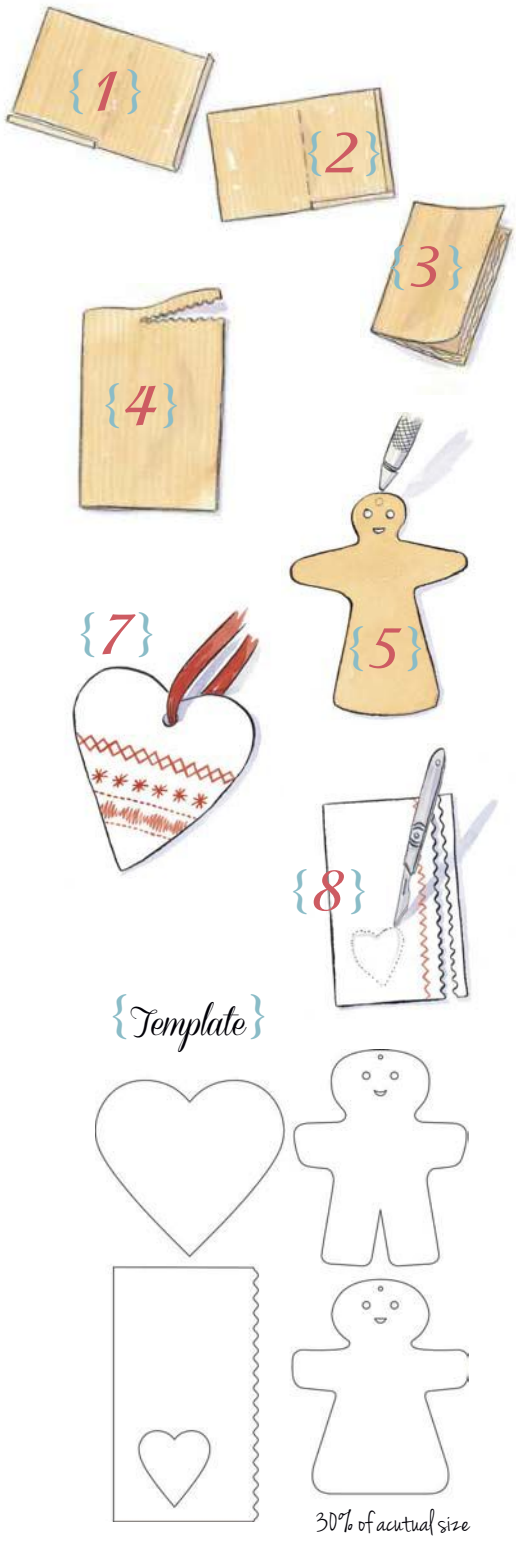
Project by Clare Youngs
Photography by Claire Richardson and James Gardiner

What you'll need:

- Thick brown paper
- Craft knife
- Cutting mat
- Metal ruler
- Glue or double-sided tape
- Decorative edged scissors
- Tracing paper
- Pencil
- Thin brown card
- Hole punch
- Sewing machine and red thread
- Thin white card
- String
- Ribbon

What you'll do:

1. To make a bag, cut a brown-paper oblong 10 × 7 ½ inches. Fold a strip ⅜ inch wide along one side edge. Fold the oblong in half and open out again. Cut a ⅜-inch strip from the bottom edge of the side that does not have the folded edge.
2. Fold the bottom edge of the side with the folded edge in by ⅜ inch.
3. Place double-sided tape or apply glue to the two flaps. Fold the oblong in half, aligning the side and bottom edges. Press to seal the edges.
4. Use decorative edged scissors to cut a corrugated or patterned edge along the top of the bag.
5. To make the gingerbread labels, scan, blow up to size, print and copy the templates (shown on the right) and cut out the shapes from thin brown card. Use a hole punch to cut out the eyes, and make a hole to thread a tie through. Cut a mouth, using a craft knife.
6. Machine stitch a few lines of decorative stitching across the width of the gingerbread men and ladies. Thread a length of string through the hole to attach to gifts.
7. In a way similar to steps 5 and 6, make the heart labels from white card. You can punch a hole to thread a ribbon through, or you can tuck the heart into a ribbon tied around the bag.
8. To make the oblong label, cut a piece of white paper 4 ¼ × 2 ½ inches. Cut along one edge with decorative edged scissors. Sew a line of zigzag stitching ⅝ inch in from the decorative edge. Cut out the heart shape in the lower half of the label with a craft knife.





Button Bites

Project by Laura Tabor
Photography by Stuart West

Makes about 35 cookies

For the Vanilla Cookie Dough:

Heaped ⅜ cup unsalted butter, softened
⅝ cup superfine sugar
1 egg
¾ teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose (plain) flour
¼ teaspoon salt

For the Ginger Snap Dough:

1½ cups all-purpose (plain) flour, plus extra for dusting
1 teaspoon ground ginger
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ cup unsalted butter
¼ cup light brown sugar
1 tablespoon molasses
1 tablespoon light corn (golden) syrup

Equipment:

- Round cookie cutters in assorted sizes
- ¼-inch icing tip
- Palette knife
- Baking sheet, lined with baking parchment

Button Bites Overview:

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F.
2. Make the vanilla cookie dough (see Vanilla Cookie Dough) and refrigerate it for at least 30 minutes.

tip

To give button bites as gifts, thread some onto a vintage-style button card or onto ribbons. These tiny cookies make great stocking stuffers.

3. Make the ginger snap dough (see Ginger Snap Dough) and refrigerate it for 5 minutes.
4. Make the ginger snap buttons (see Making the Buttons) followed by the vanilla cookie buttons (after the vanilla cookie dough has chilled for 30 minutes).
5. Finish the buttons (see Finishing the Buttons).



Vanilla Cookie Dough:

1. Beat the butter for a couple of minutes; then add the sugar and beat well until combined. Add the egg and vanilla and beat until creamy.
2. Sift the flour and salt into a bowl; then add half of it to the butter mixture and beat until combined. Add the rest of the flour and mix for a few minutes until a dough begins to form and easily comes loose from the sides of the bowl.
3. Lightly flour your work surface. Turn the dough out and knead it into a ball. Wrap it in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

Ginger Snap Dough:

4. Sift the flour, ginger, salt and baking powder into a bowl.
5. Melt the butter, sugar, molasses and syrup in a saucepan over a low heat until combined; then pour it over the flour. Mix the butter mixture and flour together until they form a stiff dough. Add a little more flour if the dough seems sticky. Let it cool, wrap it in plastic wrap and refrigerate it for 5 minutes.

Making the Buttons:

6. Roll out the dough on a surface lightly dusted with flour until it is about ¼ inch thick.
7. Use round cutters to cut out different-sized buttons. Make them quite small—2–3 ½ inches in diameter—so they remain cute and easy to package. For each button, use the rounded end of a smaller cutter to impress an indentation and make a neat ridge.

Finishing the Buttons:

8. Use an icing tip to cut two or four neat holes in each button. Push the tip into the dough and twist it slightly.
9. Using a palette knife, lift the cookies onto a greased baking sheet and cool them in the fridge for 5 minutes.
10. Bake in the oven 12–15 minutes or until just golden in color.





Handmade Christmas published by CICO Books,
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Sources



Photo by Jaimee Itagaki



Photo by Peggy Janssen

Making It Cheery

Pages 20–26

LIVING ROOM: Pink Christmas tree: Treetopia, treetopia.com. Chevron rug: Madeline Weinrib, madelineweinrib.com. Star tree topper: Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

LIBRARY: White bird ornaments: Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com. White feather wreaths and mercury glass: West Elm, westelm.com.

DINING ROOM: "Clacket Lane" wallpaper: Mibo, mibostudio.co.uk. Silver ornament garland: Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com. Pink banner: Minted, minted.com. All or most other furnishings are vintage.

Holly, Jolly Home

Pages 32–45

LIVING ROOM: Eijffinger collection wallpaper, eijffinger.nl. Cushions: Linda designed the cushions, from her studio called Studio Dada, studio-dada.nl.

KIDS' ROOM: Wooden Christmas tree: woodwoolstool.com. White bedside table: Leenbakker, leenbakker.nl. All or most other furnishings are vintage.

Winter Wonderland

Pages 46–61

Throughout her home, Dorine mainly uses L'Authentique neutral-colored paints in Salie 13 and Roos 41, lauthentique.nl.

BEDROOM: Wall color: Lovely Grey from PTMD, krijtverfonline.nl.

DINING ROOM: Pendant lamp: Timzowood, timzowood.nl.

SITTING ROOM: White curtains: Jeanne d'Arc Living, jeannedarcliving.dk.

LIVING ROOM: Sofa: Furniture Studio Van Rhee, vanrheemeubelatelier.nl.

GARDEN HOUSE: All the furniture is from Timzowood, timzowood.nl. All or most other furnishings are vintage.

Brocante Beauty

Pages 72–79

LIVING ROOM: Sofa: House Doctor, en.housedoctor.dk. Coffee table: Dusty Deco, dustydeco.tictail.com.

DINING TABLE: Linen napkins: French Testament, franskatestamentet.com. All or most other furnishings are vintage.

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Ho, Ho, Holiday



Kitsch for Christmas

Make drinking eggnog by the fire all the merrier this season by finding this hot collectible: a 1950s Santa punch bowl. This rare Freeman Lederman Co. piece is in great condition and can serve as a jovial centerpiece in its own right. Whether you find a full set with matching mugs or other festive collectibles like a Tom and Jerry punch set, nothing beats spreading the holiday cheer like sipping hot cocoa out of these kitsch collectibles.

Photo by Jickie Torres

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